

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 004508
ORIGIN IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00
CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01
SIG-01 HEW-04 SS-15 SP-02 L-03 NSC-05 NSCE-00 AID-05
/111 R

DRAFTED BY IO/LAB:APALMER:OF
APPROVED BY IO:DRTOUSSAINT
DOL:DHOROWITZ
COMM:DPETERSON
AF/I:SMERCURIO
NEA:SHOLLY
EA:DHARRIS
ARA:JO'GRADY
EUR:DGOOTT IO/ML:WKRIE0EL
S/IL:DGOOD

-----080809Z 112219 /13

R 080330Z JAN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
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CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 004508

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMCONSUL MELBOURNE
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 004508

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ILO, ELAB, IS

SUBJECT: ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT ON ARAB-ISRAELI
ISSUE
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PAGE 03 STATE 004508

REF: GENEVA 9294(NOTAL)

1. BACKGROUND: JUNE 1974 ILO CONFERENCE PASSED RESOLUTION (OPPOSED BY US AND SOME WESTERN EUROPEANS) CONDEMNING ISRAEL FOR VIOLATIONS (ALLEGED) OF TRADE UNION RIGHTS, RACISM, AND DISCRIMINATION, IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. GOI THEN REQUESTED ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL (DG) TO CARRY OUT SPECIAL SURVEY UNDER PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED BY GB IN 1973 FOR INVESTIGATING ALLEGATIONS OF DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT. AT SUBSEQUENT GB MEETINGS DG STATED HE WAS COLLECTING INFORMATION; GB ALSO APPROVED DG'S CARRYING OUT STUDY AS REQUESTED BY GOI. AT GB MARCH 1976, IN CONFORMITY WITH PRINCIPLES EXPRESSED IN LETTER OF INTENT TO WITHDRAW DATED NOV 5, 1975, US OBJECTED TO ANY FURTHER ACTIVITY BY DG ON GROUNDS THAT INVESTIGATION WHICH FOLLOWED CONDEMNATION IS INEVITABLY A TAINTED PROCEDURE AND CONDEMNATION WITHOUT PRIOR INVESTIGATION IS VIOLATION DUE PROCESS. NEVERTHELESS, GB APPROVED HIS CONTINUING THIS EFFORT. DG

THEN ATTEMPTED TO SEND NORWEGIAN PROFESSOR OPSAHL TO OCCUPIED TERRITORIES TO INVESTIGATE SITUATION BUT CANCELLED

MISSION IN SEPTEMBER WHEN ARABS OBJECTED ORALLY AND LATER IN A MEMORANDUM THAT THEY HAD NOT BEEN CONSULTED. IN A SECOND MEMORANDUM, THEY STATED THEY WERE NOT INTERESTED IN DG'S EFFORTS TO COLLECT INFO; THEY WANTED HIM TO IMPLEMENT THE 1974 RESOLUTION (I.E. TAKE STEPS TO END ALLEGED VIOLATIONS).

AT NOVEMBER 1976 GB SESSION, DG'S REPORT ON THIS SITUATION STATED THAT HE HAD DONE WHAT HE COULD UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES AND RECOMMENDED "CLOSING THE BOOK"; THIS POSTURE WAS ENCOURAGED BY US AND ENDORSED BY OFFICERS OF GB. US HAD EXPECTED TO HAVE ENOUGH SUPPORT FROM MODERATE EMPLOYER, WORKER, AND GOVT REPS TO GET DG'S REPORT ACCEPTED BUT ON LAST DAY OF PLENARY, ARABS ASKED TO HAVE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 004508

DISCUSSION THIS AGENDA ITEM POSTPONED; EMPLOYER GROUP WENT ALONG WITH REQUEST, AND WITHOUT THEIR SUPPORT US GOAL OF HAVING MATTER CLOSED IN NOVEMBER HAD NO CHANCE OF SUCCESS. THEREFORE, DURING LAST HOURS OF NOV GB USG REPRESENTATIVE STATED OUR OBJECTIONS TO CONTINUING INVOLVEMENT OF DG IN THIS INVESTIGATION BUT AGREED NOT OPPOSE POSTPONEMENT, ON UNDERSTANDING NEXT SESSION OF GB WOULD CONSIDER DG'S NOVEMBER REPORT. (REFTEL BEING REPEATED TO ADDRESSEES WHICH HAVE NOT RECEIVED IT.)

2. ISSUE WILL COME UP AT NEXT GB SESSION (FEB 14-MARCH 4). DEPT HAS NO INDICATION AT PRESENT WHAT ARAB APPROACH WILL BE, BUT WE MUST ASSUME ARABS WILL OPPOSE "CLOSING BOOK" AND MAY ATTEMPT REINSTATE OPSAHL MISSION (DESPITE THEIR EARLIER OBJECTIONS) OR ASK DG PROVIDE NEXT SESSION OF GB (MAY) WITH ANALYSIS OF (AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON) DG'S STUDY, OR REQUEST POSTPONEMENT. (REGARDLESS OF OUTCOME AT GB SESSION(S) NEW RESOLUTION OF CONDEMNATION COULD BE INTRODUCED AT JUNE CONFERENCE.) WE ARE ALSO NOT CERTAIN WHAT REACTION OF OTHER GB MEMBERS MAY BE TO ARAB TACTICS. ALTHOUGH WESTERN GOVT REPS SUPPORTED US POSITION IN NOVEMBER, AS DID SOME WORKER AND EMPLOYER REPS, THEY WERE UNWILLING TO FIGHT ARAB MOVE FOR POSTPONEMENT --- BECAUSE THEIR EFFORT WAS CERTAIN TO BE DEFEATED.

3. DEPT PLANS TO TRY AGAIN TO CLOSE THE BOOK WHEN ISSUE COMES UP IN FEB GB, FOR REASONS OF PRINCIPLE, AS STATED PARA 1. SUCCESS OF OUR EFFORTS WILL DEPEND NOT ONLY ON CONVINCING OTHERS OF THE MERITS OF OUR POSITION BUT ALSO IN SUCCESSFULLY COUNTERING EFFORTS OF ARABS AND THEIR SUPPORTERS TO DEVISE TACTICS WHICH AGAIN COULD SUCCESSFULLY

DELAY ISSUE. FOR THAT REASON DEPT BELIEVES IT ESSENTIAL TO HAVE AS MUCH INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE ABOUT ARAB TACTICS AND REACTION OF OTHERS TO THEM, IN ADDITION TO ASCERTAINING WHICH GB REPS AGREE WITH US ON THESE PRINCIPLES OF

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PAGE 05 STATE 004508

DUE PROCESS.

4. ACTION REQUESTED:

A. DEPT REQUESTS ACTION ADDRESSEES IN COUNTRIES WHERE GOVT IS MEMBER OF GB TO MAKE DISCREET INQUIRIES, AS TO HOW HOST GOVT PLANS DEAL WITH THIS ISSUE IN FEB-MARCH GB MEETING. DEPARTMENT WISHES AVOID IMPRESSION OF DEMARCHE AND, THUS, ASKS THAT INQUIRIES BE MADE AS INFORMALLY AS POSSIBLE OR DURING COURSE OF MEETINGS (E.G. WITH FON MIN OR LAB MIN OFFICIALS) COVERING RANGE OF SUBJECTS. WHERE LOCAL SITUATION MAKES INQUIRY INEXPEDIENT, EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO PROVIDE DEPT ITS OWN ANALYSIS OF HOST GOVT'S ATTITUDE AND ESTIMATE ROLE IT WILL PLAY AT NEXT GB. WE WILL ALSO WELCOME ANY INFORMATION POSTS HAVE OR CAN DEVELOP ABOUT APPROACHES TO HOST GOVERNMENTS BY ARABS OR THEIR FRIENDS TO SEEK SUPPORT FOR TACTICS DESIGNED TO POSTPONE ISSUE UNTIL JUNE CONFERENCE, AS WELL AS ON TYPE OF TACTICS ARABS AND FRIENDS MAY HAVE IN MIND.

B. ACTION ADDRESSEES IN COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE EMPLOYER OR WORKER REPS ON GB SHOULD BE DISCREET IN ANY INQUIRIES TO THEM BECAUSE OF US POLICY OF RESPECTING AUTONOMY OF NON-GOVT REPS. HOWEVER, IF NORMAL POST CONTACT WITH WORKER OR EMPLOYER REPS MAKE IT FEASIBLE TO SEEK INFO, EMBASSY MAY DO SO IN CONTEXT THAT US IS CONCERNED ABOUT CONTINUING PRESENCE OF THIS ITEM ON GB AGENDAS WHEN IN US OPINION THIS IS VIOLATION OF DUE PROCESS. WHERE IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO DISCUSS WITH WORKER OR EMPLOYER REPS, EMBASSY'S ESTIMATE OF REP'S ATTITUDE AND ROLE AT NEXT SESSION OF GB WOULD BE USEFUL.

C. INFO ADDRESSEES NEED NOT SEEK INFO BUT THEIR COMMENTS WOULD BE WELCOME.

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PAGE 06 STATE 004508

5. FYI: IN ANY DISCUSSION WHICH MAY ARISE DURING POSTS

EFFORTS TO RESPOND DEPT'S REQUEST FOR INFO, POSTS SHOULD, AS APPROPRIATE, STATE THAT US POSITION THIS ISSUE CONTINUES TO BE AS STATED REFTTEL. DEPT IS NOT RPT NOT ASKING POSTS TO MAKE DEMARCHE OR SEEK SUPPORT FOR US POSITION AT THIS TIME BUT EXPECTS TO ASK KEY POSTS TO DO SO PRIOR TO NEXT GB SESSION. END FYI.

6. MEMBERSHIP GB.

A. GOVERNMENT MEMBERS: AUSTRALIA, BRAZIL, CANADA, CHINA, FRANCE, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, GUINEA, HUNGARY, INDIA, IRAN, ITALY, JAPAN, KUWAIT, LIBERIA, MEXICO, NORWAY, PAKISTAN, PANAMA, SOMALIA, SUDAN, TOGO, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, USSR, UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES, VENEZUELA, YUGOSLAVIA, ZAIRE.

B. EMPLOYER MEMBERS: ETHIOPIA, SUDAN, SWEDEN, UNITED KINGDOM, CONGO, IRAN, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, VENEZUELA, LEBANON, FRANCE, UNITED STATES, INDIA, URUGUAY, JAPAN.

C. WORKER MEMBERS: UNITED STATES, JAPAN, AUSTRALIA, ARGENTINA, TUNISIA, INDIA, CANADA, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, NIGERIA, USSR, UNITED KINGDOM, MADAGASCAR, MEXICO, NORWAY.
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PAGE 01 STATE 004508
ORIGIN IO-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-01 /005 R

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APPROVED BY IO/LAB:APALMER

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R 090100Z FEB 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 004508

FOL REPEAT STATE 4508 ACTION BRASILIA CONAKRY BUDAPEST NEW DELHI
TEHRAN KUWAIT MONROVIA MEXICO ISLAMABAD PANAMA MOGADISCIO LOME KHAR-
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PAGE 02 STATE 004508

TOUM PORT OF SPAIN MOSCOW CARACAS BELGRADE KINSHASA ADDIS ABABA
STOCKHOLM BEIRUT MONTEVIDEO BEUNOS AIRES TUNIS LAGOS TANANARIVE
INFO CANBERRA PARIS OTTAWA BONN ROME TOKYO OSLO LONDON GENEVA USUN
BRUSSELS LUXEMBOURG TEL AVIV BERN MELBOURNE THE HAGUE
DUBLIN COPENHAGEN DTD 8 JAN.

QUOTE

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PAGE 04 STATE 004508

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PAGE 05 STATE 004508

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6. MEMBERSHIP GB.

A. GOVERNMENT MEMBERS: AUSTRALIA, BRAZIL, CANADA, CHINA,
FRANCE, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, GUINEA, HUNGARY,
INDIA, IRAN, ITALY, JAPAN, KUWAIT, LIBERIA, MEXICO,
NORWAY, PAKISTAN, PANAMA, SOMALIA, SUDAN, TOGO, TRINIDAD
AND TOBAGO, USSR, UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES, VENEZUELA,
YUGOSLAVIA, ZAIRE.

B. EMPLOYER MEMBERS: ETHIOPIA, SUDAN, SWEDEN, UNITED
KINGDOM, CONGO, IRAN, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY,
VENEZUELA, LEBANON, FRANCE, UNITED STATES, INDIA, URUGUAY,
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PAGE 06 STATE 004508

JAPAN.

C. WORKER MEMBERS: UNITED STATES, JAPAN, AUSTRALIA,
ARGENTINA, TUNISIA, INDIA, CANADA, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF
GERMANY, NIGERIA, USSR, UNITED KINGDOM, MADAGASCAR,
MEXICO, NORWAY.
KISSINGER

UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE004508
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: APALMER:OF
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 GENEVA 9294
Retention: 0
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3637220
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT ON ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUE CONFIDENTIAL
TAGS: ELAB, IS, XF, ILO
To: BRASILIA CONAKRY MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6603b7db-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
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22 May 2009
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